

information about their proposed site prior to construction of such site as well as an environmental assessment (EA) in accordance with sections 1.1301 through 1.1319 of this chapter. Such application will be placed on public notice in accordance with section 27.316 and may not be constructed or operated prior to a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) being issued and placed on public notice by the FCC.

#### § 27.61 Quiet zones.

Quiet zones are those areas where it is necessary to restrict radiation so as to minimize possible impact on the operations of radio astronomy or other facilities that are highly sensitive to interference. The areas involved and procedures required are as follows:

(a) NRAO, NRRO. The requirements of this paragraph are intended to minimize possible interference at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory site located at Green Bank, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, and at the Naval Radio Research Observatory site at Sugar Grove, Pendleton County, West Virginia. WCS licensees planning to construct and operate a new or modified WCS station at a permanent fixed location within the area bounded by N.39°15' on the north, W.78°30' on the east, N.37°30' on the south, and W.80°30' on the west must notify the Director, National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Post Office Box No. 2, Green Bank, WV 24944, in writing, of the technical details of the proposed operation. The notification must include the geographical coordinates of the antenna location, the antenna height, antenna directivity (if any), the channel, the emission type and power.

(b) Table Mountain. The requirements of this paragraph are intended to minimize possible interference at the Table Mountain Radio Receiving Zone of the Research Laboratories of the U.S. Department of Commerce located in Boulder County, Colorado.

(1) WCS licensees planning to construct and operate a new or modified WCS station at a permanent fixed location in the vicinity of Boulder County, Colorado are advised to give consideration, prior to filing applications, to the need to protect the Table Mountain Radio Receiving Zone from interference. To prevent degradation of the present ambient radio signal level at the site, the U.S. Department of Commerce seeks to ensure that the field strengths of any radiated signals (excluding reflected signals) received on this 1800 acre site (in the vicinity of coordinates 40°07'50" North Latitude, 105°14'40" West Longitude) resulting from new assignments (other than mobile stations) or from the modification or relocation of existing facilities do not exceed the values given in Table C-3.

Table C-3 - Field Strength Limits for Table Mountain

Frequency range	Field strength	Power flux density
890 to 3000 MHz	1 mV/m	-85.8 dBW/m <sup>2</sup>

Note: Equivalent values of power flux density are calculated assuming free space characteristic impedance of  $376.7 \Omega$  ( $120\pi \Omega$ ).

(2) Advance consultation is recommended, particularly for WCS licensees that have no reliable data to indicate whether the field strength or power flux density figures in the above table would be exceeded by their proposed radio facilities. In general, coordination is recommended for:

- (i) Stations located within 2.4 kilometers (1.5 miles);
- (ii) Stations located within 4.8 kilometers (3 miles) transmitting with 50 watts or more effective radiated power (ERP) in the primary plane of polarization in the azimuthal direction of the Table Mountain Radio Receiving Zone;
- (iii) Stations located within 16 kilometers (10 miles) transmitting with 1 kW or more ERP in the primary plane of polarization in the azimuthal direction of Table Mountain Radio Receiving Zone;
- (iv) Stations located within 80 kilometers (50 miles) transmitting with 25 kW or more ERP in the primary plane of polarization in the azimuthal direction of Table Mountain Receiving Zone.

(3) WCS licensees are urged to communicate with the Radio Frequency Management Coordinator, U.S. Department of Commerce, Research Support Services NOAAR/E5X2, Boulder Laboratories, Boulder, CO 80303; telephone (303) 497-6548, in advance of construction and operation of such facilities.

(c) Federal Communications Commission protected field offices. The requirements of this paragraph are intended to minimize possible interference to FCC monitoring activities.

(1) WCS licensees planning to construct and operate a new or modified WCS station at a permanent fixed location in the vicinity of an FCC protected field office are advised to give consideration to the need to avoid interfering with the monitoring activities of that office. FCC protected field offices are listed in section 0.121 of this chapter.

(2) Applications for stations (except mobile stations) that could produce on any channel a direct wave fundamental field strength of greater than 10 mV/m ( $-65.8 \text{ dBW/m}^2$  power flux density assuming a free space characteristic impedance of  $120\pi \Omega$ ) in the authorized bandwidth at the protected field office must be examined by WCS

licensees to determine the potential for interference with monitoring activities.

(3) In the event that the calculated field strength exceeds 10 mV/m at the protected field office site, or if there is any question whether field strength levels might exceed that level, advance consultation with the FCC to discuss possible measures to avoid interference to monitoring activities should be considered. WCS licensees may communicate with: Chief, Compliance and Information Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

(4) Advance consultation is recommended for WCS licensees that have no reliable data to indicate whether the field strength or power flux density figure indicated would be exceeded by their proposed radio facilities. In general, coordination is recommended for:

- (i) Stations located within 2.4 kilometers (1.5 miles);
  - (ii) Stations located within 4.8 kilometers (3 miles) with 50 watts or more average effective radiated power (ERP) in the primary plane of polarization in the azimuthal direction of the protected field offices.
  - (iii) Stations located within 16 kilometers (10 miles) with 1 kW or more average ERP in the primary plane of polarization in the azimuthal direction of the protected field office;
  - (iv) Stations located within 80 kilometers (50 miles) with 25 kW or more average ERP in the primary plane of polarization in the azimuthal direction of the protected field office;
- (5) Advance coordination for stations transmitting on channels above 1000 MHz is recommended only if the proposed station is in the vicinity of a protected field office designated as a satellite monitoring facility in section 0.121 of this chapter.
- (6) The FCC will not screen applications to determine whether advance consultation has taken place. However, such consultation may serve to avoid the need for later modification of the authorizations of stations that interfere with monitoring activities at protected field offices.

#### **§ 27.63 Disturbance of AM broadcast station antenna patterns.**

WCS licensees that construct or modify towers in the immediate vicinity of AM broadcast stations are responsible for measures necessary to correct disturbance of the AM station antenna

pattern which causes operation outside of the radiation parameters specified by the FCC for the AM station, if the disturbance occurred as a result of such construction or modification.

(a) Non-directional AM stations. If tower construction or modification is planned within 1 kilometer (0.6 mile) of a non-directional AM broadcast station tower, the WCS licensee must notify the licensee of the AM broadcast station in advance of the planned construction or modification. Measurements must be made to determine whether the construction or modification would affect the AM station antenna pattern. The WCS licensee is responsible for the installation and continued maintenance of any detuning apparatus necessary to restore proper non-directional performance of the AM station tower.

(b) Directional AM stations. If tower construction or modification is planned within 3 kilometers (1.9 miles) of a directional AM broadcast station array, the WCS licensee must notify the licensee of the AM broadcast station in advance of the planned construction or modification. Measurements must be made to determine whether the construction or modification would affect the AM station antenna pattern. The WCS licensee is responsible for the installation and continued maintenance of any detuning apparatus necessary to restore proper performance of the AM station array.

#### **§ 27.64 Protection from interference.**

Wireless Communications Service (WCS) stations operating in full accordance with applicable FCC rules and the terms and conditions of their authorizations are normally considered to be non-interfering. If the FCC determines, however, that interference which significantly interrupts or degrades a radio service is being caused, it may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, require modifications to any WCS station as necessary to eliminate such interference.

(a) Failure to operate as authorized. Any licensee causing interference to the service of other stations by failing to operate its station in full accordance with its authorization and applicable FCC rules shall discontinue all transmissions, except those necessary for the immediate safety of life or property, until it can bring its station into full compliance with the authorization and rules.

(b) Intermodulation interference. Licensees should attempt to resolve such interference by technical means.

(c) Situations in which no protection is afforded. Except as provided elsewhere in this part, no protection from interference is afforded in the following situations:

(1) Interference to base receivers from base or fixed transmitters. Licensees should attempt to resolve such interference by technical means or operating arrangements.

(2) Interference to mobile receivers from mobile transmitters. No protection is provided against mobile-to-mobile interference.

(3) Interference to base receivers from mobile transmitters. No protection is provided against mobile-to-base interference.

(4) Interference to fixed stations. Licensees should attempt to resolve such interference by technical means or operating arrangements.

(5) Anomalous or infrequent propagation modes. No protection is provided against interference caused by tropospheric and ionospheric propagation of signals.

### **Subpart D -- Competitive Bidding Procedures for WCS**

#### **§ 27.201 WCS subject to competitive bidding.**

Mutually exclusive initial applications to provide WCS service are subject to competitive bidding procedures. The procedures set forth in part 1, subpart Q of this chapter will apply unless otherwise specified in this part.

#### **§ 27.202 Competitive bidding mechanisms.**

In addition to the provisions of section 1.2104(a) through (f), (h) and (i), the following provision will apply to WCS: where a tie bid occurs, the high bidder will be determined by the order in which the bids were received by the Commission.

#### **§ 27.203 Withdrawal, default and disqualification payments.**

When the Commission conducts a simultaneous multiple round auction pursuant to section 27.202, the Commission will impose payments on bidders who withdraw high bids during the course of an auction, or who default on payments due after an auction closes or who are disqualified. When the amount of such a payment cannot be determined, a deposit of up to 20 percent of the amount bid on the license will be required.

(a) Bid withdrawal prior to close of auction. A bidder who withdraws a high bid during the course of an auction will be subject to a payment equal to the difference between the amount bid and the amount of the winning bid the next time the license is offered by the Commission. No withdrawal payment would be assessed if the subsequent winning bid exceeds the withdrawn bid. This payment amount will be deducted from any upfront payments or down payments that the withdrawing bidder has deposited with the Commission.

(b) Default or disqualification after close of auction. If a high bidder defaults or is disqualified after the close of such an auction, the defaulting bidder will be subject to the payment in paragraph (a) of this section plus an additional payment equal to 3 percent of the subsequent winning bid. If the subsequent winning bid exceeds the defaulting bidder's bid amount, the 3 percent payment will be calculated based on the defaulting bidder's bid amount.

These amounts will be deducted from any upfront payments or down payments that the defaulting or disqualified bidder has deposited with the Commission.

**§ 27.204 Bidding application and certification procedures; prohibition of collusion.**

(a) Submission of Short-Form Application (FCC Form 175). In order to be eligible to bid, an applicant must timely submit, by means of electronic filing, a short-form application (FCC Form 175). Unless otherwise provided by public notice, the Form 175 need not be accompanied by an upfront payment (see section 27.205).

(1) All Form 175s will be due on the date specified by public notice.

(2) The Form 175 must contain the following information:

(i) Identification of each license on which the applicant wishes to bid;

(ii) The applicant's name, if the applicant is an individual. If the applicant is a corporation, then the short-form application will require the name and address of the corporate office and the name and title of an officer or director. If the applicant is a partnership, then the application will require the names, citizenship and addresses of all partners, and, if a partner is not a natural person, then the name and title of a responsible person should be included as well. If the applicant is a trust, then the name and address of the trustee will be required. If the applicant is none of the above, then it must identify and describe itself and its principals or other responsible persons;

(iii) The identity of the person(s) authorized to make or withdraw a bid;

(iv) If the applicant applies as a designated entity pursuant to section 27.210(b), a statement to that effect and a declaration, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant is qualified as a designated entity under section 27.210(b).

(v) Certification that the applicant is legally, technically, financially and otherwise qualified pursuant to section 308(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. The Commission will accept applications certifying that a request for waiver or other relief from the requirements of section 310 is pending;

(vi) Certification that the applicant is in compliance with the foreign ownership provisions of section 310 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended;

(vii) Certification that the applicant is and will, during the pendency of its application(s), remain in compliance with any service-specific qualifications applicable to the licenses on which the applicant intends to bid including, but not limited to, financial qualifications. The Commission may require certification in certain services that the applicant will, following grant of a license.

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come into compliance with certain service-specific rules, including, but not limited to, ownership eligibility limitations:

(viii) An exhibit, certified as truthful under penalty of perjury, identifying all parties with whom the applicant has entered into partnerships, joint ventures, consortia or other agreements, arrangements or understandings of any kind relating to the licenses being auctioned, including any such agreements relating to the post-auction market structure;

(ix) Certification under penalty of perjury that it has not entered and will not enter into any explicit or implicit agreements, arrangements or understandings of any kind with any parties other than those identified pursuant to paragraph (a)(2)(viii) of this section regarding the amount of their bids, bidding strategies or the particular licenses on which they will or will not bid; and

(x) Certification under penalty of perjury that it is not in default on any Commission licenses and that it is not delinquent on any extension of credit from any federal agency.

Note to paragraph (a): The Commission may also request applicants to submit additional information for informational purposes to aid in its preparation of required reports to Congress.

(b) Modification and Amendment of Application. Applicants will be permitted to amend their Form 175 applications to make minor amendments to correct minor errors or defects such as typographical errors. Applicants will also be permitted to amend FCC Form 175 to make changes to the information required by section 27.204(a) (such as ownership changes or changes in the identification of parties to bidding consortia), provided such changes do not result in a change in control of the applicant and do not involve another applicant (or parties in interest to an applicant) who has applied for licenses in any of the same geographic license areas as the applicant. Amendments which change control of the applicant will be considered major amendments. An FCC Form 175 which is amended by a major amendment will be considered to be newly filed and cannot be resubmitted after applicable filing deadlines. See also section 1.2105 of this chapter.

(c) Prohibition of collusion. (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (c)(2), (c)(3) and (c)(4) of this section, after the filing of short-form applications, all applicants are prohibited from cooperating, collaborating, discussing or disclosing in any manner the substance of their bids or bidding strategies, or discussing or negotiating settlement agreements, with other applicants until after the high bidder makes the required down payment, unless such applicants are members of a bidding consortium or other joint bidding arrangement identified on the bidder's short-form application pursuant to section 27.204(a)(2)(viii).

(2) Applicants may modify their short-form applications to reflect formation of consortia or changes in ownership at any time before or during an auction, provided such changes do not result in a change in control of the applicant, and provided that the parties forming consortia or entering into ownership agreements have not applied for licenses in any of the same geographic license areas. Such changes will not be considered major modifications of the application.

(3) After the filing of short-form applications, applicants may make agreements to bid jointly for licenses, provided the parties to the agreement have not applied for licenses in any of the same geographic license areas.

(4) After the filing of short-form applications, a holder of a non-controlling attributable interest in an entity submitting a short-form application may acquire an ownership interest in, form a consortium with, or enter into a joint bidding arrangement with, other applicants for licenses in the same geographic license area, provided that:

(i) The attributable interest holder certifies to the Commission that it has not communicated and will not communicate with any party concerning the bids or bidding strategies of more than one of the applicants in which it holds an attributable interest, or with which it has a consortium or joint bidding arrangement, and which have applied for licenses in the same geographic license area(s); and

(ii) The arrangements do not result in any change in control of an applicant.

(5) Applicants must modify their short-form applications to reflect any changes in ownership or in the membership of consortia or joint bidding arrangements.

(6) For purposes of this paragraph:

(i) The term "applicant" shall include the entity submitting a short-form application to participate in an auction (FCC Form 175), as well as all holders of partnership and other ownership interests and any stock interest amounting to 5 percent or more of the entity, or outstanding stock, or outstanding voting stock of the entity submitting a short-form application, and all officers and directors of that entity; and

(ii) The term "bids or bidding strategies" shall include capital calls or requests for additional funds in support of bids or bidding strategies.

#### **§ 27.205 Submission of upfront payments.**

(a) Each eligible bidder for WCS licenses subject to auction shall pay an upfront payment pursuant to this chapter and procedures specified by public notice. No interest will be paid on upfront payments.

(b) Upfront payments must be made by wire transfer.

(c) If the applicant does not submit at least the minimum upfront payment, it will be ineligible to bid, its application will be dismissed and any upfront payment it has made will be returned.



(d) The upfront payment(s) of a bidder will be credited toward any down payment required for licenses on which the bidder is the high bidder. Where the upfront payment amount exceeds the required deposit of a winning bidder, the Commission will refund the excess amount after determining that no bid withdrawal payments are owed by that bidder.

(e) In accordance with the provisions of paragraph (d) of this section, in the event a payment is assessed pursuant to section 27.203 for bid withdrawal or default, upfront payments or down payments on deposit with the Commission will be used to satisfy the bid withdrawal or default payment before being applied toward any additional payment obligations that the high bidder may have.

**§ 27.206 Submission of down payment and filing of long-form applications.**

(a) After bidding has ended, the Commission will identify and notify the high bidder and declare the bidding closed.

(b) Within ten (10) business days after being notified that it is a high bidder on a particular license(s), a high bidder must submit to the Commission's lockbox bank such additional funds (the "down payment") as are necessary to bring its total deposits (not including upfront payments applied to satisfy bid withdrawal or default payments) up to twenty (20) percent of its high bid(s). This down payment must be made by wire transfer or cashier's check drawn in U.S. dollars from a financial institution whose deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and must be made payable to the Federal Communications Commission. Down payments will be held by the Commission until the high bidder has been awarded the license and has paid the remaining balance due on the license, in which case it will not be returned, or until the winning bidder is found unqualified to be a licensee or has defaulted, in which case it will be returned, less applicable payments. No interest will be paid on any down payment.

(c) A high bidder that meets its down payment obligations in a timely manner must, within ten (10) business days after being notified that it is a high bidder, submit an additional application (the "long-form application") pursuant to the rules governing the service in which the applicant is the high bidder. Notwithstanding any other provision in title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations to the contrary, high bidders need not submit an additional application filing fee with their long-form applications. Notwithstanding any other provision in Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations to the contrary, the high bidder's long-form application must be mailed or otherwise delivered to: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Attention: Auction Application Processing Section, 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222, Washington, DC 20554. An applicant that fails to submit the required long-form application as required under this subsection, and fails to establish good cause for any late-filed submission, shall be deemed to have defaulted and will be subject to the payments set forth in section 27.203.

(d) As an exhibit to its long-form application, the applicant must provide a detailed explanation of the terms and conditions and parties involved in any bidding consortia, joint venture, partnership or other agreement or arrangement it had entered into relating to the

competitive bidding process prior to the time bidding was completed. Such agreements must have been entered into prior to the filing of short-form applications pursuant to section 27.204.

**§ 27.207 Procedures for filing petitions to deny against WCS long-form applications.**

(a) Within five (5) days after the Commission gives public notice that a long-form application has been accepted for filing, petitions to deny that application may be filed. Any such petitions must contain allegations of fact supported by affidavit of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof, and be served by hand upon the applicant or its representative.

(b) An applicant may file an opposition to any petition to deny within five (5) days after the deadline for filing petitions to deny. Allegations of fact or denials thereof must be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof, and such opposition must be served by hand upon the petitioner.

(c) If the Commission determines that:

(1) An applicant is qualified and there is no substantial and material issue of fact concerning that determination, it will grant the application;

(2) An applicant is not qualified and that there is no substantial issue of fact concerning that determination, the Commission need not hold a evidentiary hearing and will deny the application; and

(3) Substantial and material issues of fact require a hearing, it will conduct a hearing. The Commission may permit all or part of the evidence to be submitted in written form and may permit employees other than administrative law judges to preside at the taking of written evidence. Such hearing will be conducted on an expedited basis.

**§ 27.208 License grant, denial, default, and disqualification.**

(a) Unless otherwise specified in these rules, auction winners are required to pay the balance of their winning bids in a lump sum within ten (10) business days following award of the license. Grant of the license will be conditioned on full and timely payment of the winning bid.

(b) If a winning bidder withdraws its bid after the Commission has declared competitive bidding closed or fails to remit the required down payment within ten (10) business days after the Commission has declared competitive bidding closed, the bidder will be deemed to have defaulted, its application will be dismissed, and it will be liable for the default penalty specified in section 27.203. In such event, the Commission may either re-auction the license to existing or new applicants or offer it to the other highest bidders (in descending order) at their final bids. The down payment obligations set forth in section 27.206(b) will apply.

(c) A winning bidder who is found unqualified to be a licensee, fails to remit the balance of its winning bid in a timely manner, or defaults or is disqualified for any reason after having made the required down payment, will be deemed to have defaulted and will be liable for the payment set forth in section 27.203. In such event, the Commission will conduct another auction for the license, affording new parties an opportunity to file applications for the license.

(d) Bidders who are found to have violated the antitrust laws or the Commission's rules in connection with their participation in the competitive bidding process may be subject, in addition to any other applicable sanctions, to forfeiture of their upfront payment, down payment or full bid amount, and may be prohibited from participating in future auctions.

**§ 27.209 Designated entities; bidding credits; unjust enrichment.**

(a) Designated entities entitled to preferences in the WCS auction are small businesses and very small businesses as defined in section 27.110(b). Designated entities will be eligible for bidding credits, as defined in parts (b) and (c) of this section.

(b) A winning bidder that qualifies as a *small business* may use a bidding credit of 25 percent to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(c) A winning bidder that qualifies as a *very small business* may use a bidding credit of 35 percent to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(d) Unjust Enrichment:

(1) If a small business or very small business (as defined in section 27.210(b)) that utilizes a bidding credit under this section seeks to transfer control or assign an authorization to an entity that is not a small business or a very small business, or seeks to make any other change in ownership that would result in the licensee losing eligibility as a small business or very small business, the small business or very small business must seek Commission approval and reimburse the U.S. Government for the amount of the bidding credit, plus interest based on the rate for ten year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, as a condition of approval of the assignment or transfer of control.

(2) If a very small business (as defined in section 27.210(b)) that utilizes a bidding credit under this section seeks to transfer control or assign an authorization to a small business meeting the eligibility standards for a lower bidding credit, or seeks to make any other change in ownership that would result in the licensee qualifying for a lower bidding credit under this section, the licensee must seek Commission approval and reimburse the U.S. Government for the difference between the amount of the bidding credit obtained by the licensee and the bidding credit for which the assignee, transferee, or licensee is eligible under this section, plus interest based on the rate for ten year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, as a condition of the approval of such assignment, transfer, or other ownership change.

(3) The amount of payments made pursuant to paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section will be reduced over time as follows: A transfer in the first five years of the license term will result in a forfeiture of 100 percent of the value of the bidding credit (or the difference between the bidding credit obtained by the original licensee and the bidding credit for which the post-transfer licensee is eligible); in year 6 of the license term the payment will be 80 percent; in year 7 the payment will be 60 percent; in year 8 the payment will be 40 percent; and in year 9 the payment will be 20 percent. For a transfer occurring in year 10 and thereafter, there will be no assessment.

### § 27.210 Definitions.

(a) Scope. The definitions in this section apply to section 27.209, unless otherwise specified in those sections.

(b) Small Business; Very Small Business; Consortia.

(1) A *small business* is an entity that, together with its affiliates and controlling principals, has average annual gross revenues that are not more than \$40 million for the preceding three years.

(2) A *very small business* is an entity that, together with its affiliates and controlling principals, has average annual gross revenues that are not more than \$15 million for the preceding three years.

(3) For purposes of determining whether an entity meets the \$40 million average annual gross revenues size standard set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section or the \$15 million average annual gross revenues size standard set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, the gross revenues of the applicant and its affiliates shall be considered on a cumulative basis and aggregated subject to the following exceptions:

(i) For purposes of paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section, the personal net worth of an applicant and its affiliates is not included in the applicant's gross revenues.

(ii) For purposes of paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section, Indian tribes or Alaska Regional or Village Corporations organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), or entities owned and controlled by such tribes or corporations, are not considered affiliates of an applicant (or licensee) that is owned and controlled by such tribes, corporations or entities, and that otherwise complies with the requirements of paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2), except that gross revenues derived from gaming activities conducted by affiliated entities pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) will be counted in determining such applicant's (or licensee's) compliance with the financial requirements of paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section, unless such applicant establishes that it will not receive a substantial unfair competitive advantage because significant legal constraints restrict the applicant's ability to access such gross revenues.

(4) A consortium of small businesses (or a consortium of very small businesses) is a conglomerate organization formed as a joint venture between or among mutually independent business firms, each of which individually satisfies the definition in paragraph (b)(1) of this section or each of which satisfies the definition in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. Where an applicant (or licensee) is a consortium of small businesses, the gross revenues of each small business shall not be aggregated.

(c) *Gross Revenues.* Gross revenues shall mean all income received by an entity, whether earned or passive, before any deductions are made for costs of doing business (*e.g.*, cost of goods sold), as evidenced by audited financial statements for the relevant number of most recently completed calendar years, or, if audited financial statements were not prepared on a calendar-year basis, for the most recently completed fiscal years preceding the filing of the applicant's short-form application (Form 175). If an entity was not in existence for all or part of the relevant period, gross revenues shall be evidenced by the audited financial statements of the entity's predecessor-in-interest or, if there is no identifiable predecessor-in-interest, unaudited financial statements certified by the applicant as accurate. When an applicant does not otherwise use audited financial statements, its gross revenues may be certified by its chief financial officer or its equivalent.

(d) *Affiliate.*

(1) Basis for Affiliation. An individual or entity is an affiliate of an applicant if such individual or entity:

- (i) Directly or indirectly controls or has the power to control the applicant, or
- (ii) Is directly or indirectly controlled by the applicant, or
- (iii) Is directly or indirectly controlled by a third party or parties who also control or have the power to control the applicant, or
- (iv) Has an "identity of interest" with the applicant.

(2) Nature of control in determining affiliation.

(i) Every business concern is considered to have one or more parties who directly or indirectly control or have the power to control it. Control may be affirmative or negative and it is immaterial whether it is exercised so long as the power to control exists.

*Example for paragraph (d)(2)(i).* An applicant owning 50 percent of the voting stock of another concern would have negative power to control such concern since such party can block any action of the other stockholders. Also, the bylaws of a corporation may permit a stockholder with less than 50 percent of the voting stock to block any actions taken by the other stockholders in the other entity. Affiliation exists when the applicant has the

power to control a concern while at the same time another person, or persons, are in control of the concern at the will of the party or parties with the power of control.

(ii) Control can arise through stock ownership; occupancy of director, officer, or key employee positions; contractual or other business relations; or combinations of these and other factors. A key employee is an employee who, because of his/her position in the concern, has a critical influence in or substantive control over the operations or management of the concern.

(iii) Control can arise through management positions if the voting stock is so widely distributed that no effective control can be established.

*Example for paragraph (d)(2)(iii).* In a corporation where the officers and directors own various size blocks of stock totaling 40 percent of the corporation's voting stock, but no officer or director has a block sufficient to give him/her control or the power to control and the remaining 60 percent is widely distributed with no individual stockholder having a stock interest greater than 10 percent, management has the power to control. If persons with such management control of the other entity are controlling principals of the applicant, the other entity will be deemed an affiliate of the applicant

(3) Identity of interest between and among persons.

Affiliation can arise between or among two or more persons with an identity of interest, such as members of the same family or persons with common investments. In determining if the applicant controls or is controlled by a concern, persons with an identity of interest will be treated as though they were one person.

(i) Spousal Affiliation. Both spouses are deemed to own or control or have the power to control interests owned or controlled by either of them, unless they are subject to a legal separation recognized by a court of competent jurisdiction in the United States.

(ii) Kinship Affiliation. Immediate family members will be presumed to own or control or have the power to control interests owned or controlled by other immediate family members. In this context "immediate family member" means father, mother, husband, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, father- or mother-in-law, son- or daughter-in-law, brother- or sister-in-law, step-father or -mother, step-brother or -sister, step-son or -daughter, half-brother or -sister. This presumption may be rebutted by showing that:

(A) The family members are estranged,

(B) The family ties are remote, or

(C) The family members are not closely involved with each other in business matters.

*Example for paragraph (d)(3)(ii).* A owns a controlling interest in Corporation X. A's sister-in-law, B, has a controlling interest in a WCS geographic area license application. Because A and B have a presumptive kinship affiliation, A's interest in Corporation X is attributable to B, and thus to the applicant, unless B rebuts the presumption with the necessary showing.

(4) Affiliation through stock ownership.

(i) An applicant is presumed to control or have the power to control a concern if he/she owns or controls or has the power to control 50 percent or more of its voting stock.

(ii) An applicant is presumed to control or have the power to control a concern even though he/she owns, controls, or has the power to control less than 50 percent of the concern's voting stock, if the block of stock he/she owns, controls, or has the power to control is large as compared with any other outstanding block of stock.

(iii) If two or more persons each owns, controls or has the power to control less than 50 percent of the voting stock of a concern, such minority holdings are equal or approximately equal in size, and the aggregate of these minority holdings is large as compared with any other stock holding, the presumption arises that each one of these persons individually controls or has the power to control the concern; however, such presumption may be rebutted by a showing that such control or power to control, in fact, does not exist.

(5) Affiliation arising under stock options, convertible debentures, and agreements to merge. Stock options, convertible debentures, and agreements to merge (including agreements in principle) are generally considered to have a present effect on the power to control the concern. Therefore, in making a size determination, such options, debentures, and agreements will generally be treated as though the rights held thereunder had been exercised. However, neither an affiliate nor an applicant can use such options and debentures to appear to terminate its control over another concern before it actually does so.

*Example 1 for paragraph (d)(5).* If company B holds an option to purchase a controlling interest in company A, who holds a controlling interest in a WCS geographic area license application, the situation is treated as though company B had exercised its rights and had become owner of a controlling interest in company A. The gross revenues of company B must be taken into account in determining the size of the applicant.

*Example 2 for paragraph (d)(5).* If a large company, BigCo, holds 70% (70 of 100 outstanding shares) of the voting stock of company A, who holds a controlling interest in a WCS geographic area license application, and gives a third party, SmallCo, an option to purchase 50 of the 70 shares owned by BigCo, BigCo will be deemed to be an affiliate of company A, and thus the applicant, until SmallCo actually exercises its options to purchase such shares. In order to prevent BigCo from circumventing the intent of the rule, which

requires such options to be considered on a fully diluted basis, the option is not considered to have present effect in this case.

*Example 3 for paragraph (d)(5).* If company A has entered into an agreement to merge with company B in the future, the situation is treated as though the merger has taken place.

(6) Affiliation under voting trusts.

(i) Stock interests held in trust shall be deemed controlled by any person who holds or shares the power to vote such stock, to any person who has the sole power to sell such stock, and to any person who has the right to revoke the trust at will or to replace the trustee at will.

(ii) If a trustee has a familial, personal or extra-trust business relationship to the grantor or the beneficiary, the stock interests held in trust will be deemed controlled by the grantor or beneficiary, as appropriate.

(iii) If the primary purpose of a voting trust, or similar agreement, is to separate voting power from beneficial ownership of voting stock for the purpose of shifting control of or the power to control a concern in order that such concern or another concern may meet the Commission's size standards, such voting trust shall not be considered valid for this purpose regardless of whether it is or is not recognized within the appropriate jurisdiction.

(7) Affiliation through common management.

Affiliation generally arises where officers, directors, or key employees serve as the majority or otherwise as the controlling element of the board of directors and/or the management of another entity.

(8) Affiliation through common facilities.

Affiliation generally arises where one concern shares office space and/or employees and/or other facilities with another concern, particularly where such concerns are in the same or related industry or field of operations, or where such concerns were formerly affiliated, and through these sharing arrangements one concern has control, or potential control, of the other concern.

(9) Affiliation through contractual relationships.

Affiliation generally arises where one concern is dependent upon another concern for contracts and business to such a degree that one concern has control, or potential control, of the other concern.



(10) Affiliation under joint venture arrangements.

(i) A joint venture for size determination purposes is an association of concerns and/or individuals, with interests in any degree or proportion, formed by contract, express or implied, to engage in and carry out a single, specific business venture for joint profit for which purpose they combine their efforts, property, money, skill and knowledge, but not on a continuing or permanent basis for conducting business generally. The determination whether an entity is a joint venture is based upon the facts of the business operation, regardless of how the business operation may be designated by the parties involved. An agreement to share profits/losses proportionate to each party's contribution to the business operation is a significant factor in determining whether the business operation is a joint venture.

(ii) The parties to a joint venture are considered to be affiliated with each other.

**Subpart E -- Application, Licensing, and Processing Rules for WCS**

**§ 27.301 Authorization required.**

No person shall use or operate any device for the transmission of energy or communications by radio in the services authorized by this part except as provided in this part.

**§ 27.302 Eligibility.**

(a) General. Authorizations will be granted upon proper application if:

(1) The applicant is qualified under the applicable laws and the regulations, policies and decisions issued under those laws, including section 27.12;

(2) There are frequencies available to provide satisfactory service; and

(3) The public interest, convenience or necessity would be served by a grant.

(b) Alien Ownership. A WCS authorization may not be granted to or held by an entity not meeting the requirements of Section 310 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. section 310 insofar as applicable to the particular service in question.

**§ 27.303 Formal and informal applications.**

(a) Except for an authorization under any of the conditions stated in section 308(a) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 308(a)), the Commission may grant only upon written application received by it, the following authorization: station licenses; modifications of licenses; renewals of licenses; transfers and assignments of station licenses, or any right thereunder.

(b) Except as may be otherwise permitted by this part, a separate written application shall be filed for each instrument of authorization requested. Applications may be:

(1) "Formal applications" where the Commission has prescribed in this part a standard form;  
or

(2) "Informal applications" (normally in letter form) where the Commission has not prescribed a standard form.

(c) An informal application will be accepted for filing only if:

(1) A standard form is not prescribed or clearly applicable to the authorization requested;

(2) It is a document submitted, in duplicate, with a caption which indicates clearly the nature of the request, radio service involved, location of the station, and the application file number (if known); and

(3) It contains all the technical details and informational showings required by the rules and states clearly and completely the facts involved and authorization desired.

#### **§ 27.304 Filing of WCS applications, fees, and numbers of copies.**

(a) As prescribed by section 27.307, standard formal application forms applicable to the WCS may be obtained from either:

(1) Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554; or

(2) By calling the Commission's Forms Distribution Center, (202) 418-3676.

(b) Applications for the initial provision of WCS service must be filed on FCC Form 175 in accordance with the rules in sections 27.204 and part 1, subpart Q of this chapter. In the event of mutual exclusivity between applicants filing FCC Form 175, only auction winners will be eligible to file subsequent long form applications on FCC Form 600 for initial WCS licenses. Mutually exclusive applications filed on Form 175 are subject to competitive bidding under those rules.

(c) All applications for WCS radio station authorizations (other than applications for initial provision of WCS service filed on FCC Form 175) shall be submitted for filing to: Federal Communications Commission, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, Attention: WCS Processing Section.

(d) All correspondence or amendments concerning a submitted application shall clearly identify the name of the applicant, FCC Account Number or Commission file number (if known) or station call sign of the application involved, and may be sent directly to the Wireless

Telecommunications Bureau, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, Attention: WCS Processing Section.

(e) Except as otherwise specified, all applications, amendments, correspondence, pleadings and forms (with the exception of FCC Form 175, which is to be filed electronically pursuant to section 27.204) shall be submitted on one original paper copy and with a 3.5-inch floppy disk containing all attachments, and any other supporting documentation in separate ASCII text (.TXT) file formats. Those filing any amendments, correspondence, pleadings, and forms must simultaneously submit the original hard copy which must be stamped "original". In addition to the original hard copy, those filing pleadings, including pleadings under section 1.2108 of this chapter shall also submit 2 paper copies as provided in section 1.51 of this chapter. Applicants who file electronically will not be required to follow these procedures, but instead are required to follow all instructions for electronic filing detailed by the FCC in any subsequent public notices.

(f) Subsequent application by auction winners or non-mutually exclusive applicants for WCS radio station(s) under part 27. FCC Form 600 shall be submitted by each auction winner for each WCS license applied for on FCC Form 175. In the event that mutual exclusivity does not exist between applicants filing FCC Form 175, the Commission will so inform the applicant and the applicant will also file FCC Form 600. Blanket licenses are granted for each market frequency block. Applications for individual sites are not needed and will not be accepted. See section 27.11.

**§ 27.305 Reserved.**

**§ 27.306 Miscellaneous forms.**

(a) Renewal of station licenses. Except for renewal of special temporary authorizations, FCC Form 405 ("Application for Renewal of Station License") must be filed in duplicate by the licensee between thirty (30) and sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the license sought to be renewed.

(b) Assignment of authorization or transfer of control. Assignments of authorization or transfers of control applications are to be filed on the FCC Form 490, "Application for Assignment of Authorization or Consent to Transfer of Control of License".

**§ 27.307 General application requirements.**

(a) Each application (including applications filed on Forms 175 and 600) for a radio station authorization or for consent to assignment or transfer of control in the WCS shall disclose fully the real party or parties in interest and must include the following information:

(1) A list of its subsidiaries, if any. Subsidiary means any business five per cent or more whose stock, warrants, options or debt securities are owned by the applicant or an officer,

director, stockholder or key management personnel of the applicant. This list must include a description of each subsidiary's principal business and a description of each subsidiary's relationship to the applicant.

(2) A list of its affiliates, if any. Affiliate is defined in section 27.210(d).

(3) A list of the names, addresses, citizenship and principal business of any person holding five percent or more of each class of stock, warrants, options or debt securities together with the amount and percentage held, and the name, address, citizenship and principal place of business of any person on whose account, if other than the holder, such interest is held. If any of these persons are related by blood or marriage, include such relationship in the statement.

(4) In the case of partnerships, the name and address of each partner, each partner's citizenship and the share or interest participation in the partnership. This information must be provided for all partners, regardless of their respective ownership interests in the partnership. This information must be included an exhibit to the application.

(b) Each application for a radio station authorization in the WCS must:

(1) Submit the information required by the Commission's rules, requests, and application forms;

(2) Be maintained by the applicant substantially accurate and complete in all significant respects in accordance with the provisions of section 1.65 of this chapter; and

(3) Show compliance with and make all special showings that may be applicable.

(c) Where documents, exhibits, or other lengthy showings already on file with the Commission contain information which is required by an application form, the application may specifically refer to such information, if:

(1) The information previously filed is over one A4 (21 cm x 29.7 cm) or 8.5 x 11 inch (21.6 cm x 27.9 cm) page in length, and all information referenced therein is current and accurate in all significant respects under section 1.65 of this chapter; and

(2) The reference states specifically where the previously filed information can actually be found, including mention of:

(i) The station call sign or application file number whenever the reference is to station files or previously filed applications; and

(ii) The title of the proceeding, the docket number, and any legal citations, whenever the reference is to a docketed proceeding. However, questions on an application form which call for

specific technical data, or which can be answered by a "yes" or "no" or other short answer shall be answered as appropriate and shall not be cross-referenced to a previous filing.

(d) In addition to the general application requirements of subpart F of this part and section 27.204 of this chapter, applicants shall submit any additional documents, exhibits, or signed written statements of fact:

(1) As may be required by these rules; and

(2) As the Commission, at any time after the filing of an application and during the term of any authorization, may require from any applicant, permittee, or licensee to enable it to determine whether a radio authorization should be granted, denied, or revoked.

(e) Except when the Commission has declared explicitly to the contrary, an informational requirement does not in itself imply the processing treatment of decisional weight to be accorded the response.

#### **§ 27.308 Technical content of applications.**

All applications required by this part shall contain all technical information required by the application forms or associated public notice(s). Applications other than initial applications for a WCS license must also comply with all technical requirements of the rules governing the WCS (see subparts C and D as appropriate).

#### **§27.310 Waiver of rules.**

(a) Request for waivers.

(1) Waivers of these rules may be granted upon application or by the Commission on its own motion. Requests for waivers shall contain a statement of reasons sufficient to justify a waiver. Waivers will not be granted except upon an affirmative showing:

(i) That the underlying purpose of the rule will not be served, or would be frustrated, by its application in a particular case, and that grant of the waiver is otherwise in the public interest; or

(ii) That the unique facts and circumstances of a particular case render application of the rule inequitable, unduly burdensome or otherwise contrary to the public interest. Applicants must also show the lack of a reasonable alternative.

(2) If the information necessary to support a waiver request is already on file, the applicant may cross-reference to the specific filing where it may be found.

(b) Denial of waiver, alternate showing required. If a waiver is not granted, the application will be dismissed as defective unless the applicant has also provided an alternative proposal which complies with the Commission's rules (including any required showings).

**§ 27.311 Defective applications.**

(a) Unless the Commission shall otherwise permit, an application will be unacceptable for filing and will be returned to the applicant with a brief statement as to the omissions or discrepancies if:

(1) The application is defective with respect to completeness of answers to questions, informational showings, execution, or other matters of a formal character; or

(2) The application does not comply with the Commission's rules, regulations, specific requirements for additional information or other requirements. See also section 27.204 of this chapter.

(b) Some examples of common deficiencies which result in defective applications under paragraph (a) of this section are:

(1) The application is not filled out completely and signed; or

(2) The application (other than an application filed on FCC Form 175) does not include an environmental assessment as required for an action that may have a significant impact upon the environment, as defined in section 1.1307 of this chapter.

(3) The application is filed prior to the public notice issued under section 27.316 announcing the application filing date for the relevant auction or after the cutoff date prescribed in that public notice;

(c) If an applicant is requested by the Commission to file any documents or any supplementary or explanatory information not specifically required in the prescribed application form, a failure to comply with such request within a specified time period will be deemed to render the application defective and will subject it to dismissal.

**§ 27.312 Inconsistent or conflicting applications.**

While an application is pending and undecided under part 27, no subsequent inconsistent or conflicting application may be filed by the same applicant, his successor or assignee, or on behalf or for the benefit of the same applicant, his successor or assignee.

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**§ 27.313 Amendment of applications for Wireless Communications Service (other than applications filed on FCC Form 175).**

This section applies to all applications for Wireless Communications Service other than applications filed on FCC Form 175.

(a) Amendments as of right. A pending application may be amended as a matter of right if the application has not been designated for hearing.

(1) Amendments shall comply with section 27.319, as applicable; and

(2) Amendments which resolve interference conflicts or amendments under section 27.319 may be filed at any time.

(b) The Commission or the presiding officer may grant requests to amend an application designated for hearing only if a written petition demonstrating good cause is submitted and properly served upon the parties of record.

(c) Major amendments, minor amendments. The Commission will classify all amendments as minor, unless there is a substantial change in ownership or control. Such an amendment shall be deemed to be a major amendment subject to section 27.316.

(d) If a petition to deny (or other formal objection) has been filed, any amendment, requests for waiver, (or other written communications) shall be served on the petitioner by hand, unless waiver of this requirement is granted pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section. See also section 1.2108 of this chapter.

(e) The Commission may waive the service requirements of paragraph (d) of this section and prescribe such alternative procedures as may be appropriate under the circumstances to protect petitioners' interests and to avoid undue delay in a proceeding, if an applicant submits a request for waiver which demonstrates that the service requirement is unreasonably burdensome.

(f) Any amendment to an application shall be signed and shall be submitted in the same manner, and with the same number of copies, as was the original application. Amendments may be made in letter form if they comply in all other respects with the requirements of this chapter.

(g) An application will be considered to be a newly filed application if it is amended by a major amendment (as defined in this section), except in the following circumstances:

(1) The amendment reflects only a change in ownership or control found by the Commission to be in the public interest;

(2) The amendment corrects typographical transcription, or similar clerical errors which are clearly demonstrated to be mistakes by reference to other parts of the application, and whose discovery does not create new or increased frequency conflicts.

**§ 27.314 Application for temporary authorizations.**

In circumstances requiring immediate or temporary use of facilities, request may be made for special temporary authority (STA) to operate new or modified equipment. Such requests may be submitted as informal applications (see section 22.105) and must contain complete details about the proposed operation and the circumstances that fully justify and necessitate the grant of STA. Such requests should be filed in time to be received by the FCC at least 10 days prior to the date of proposed operation or, where an extension is sought, 10 days prior to the expiration date of the existing STA. Requests received less than 10 days prior to the desired date of operation may be given expedited consideration only if compelling reasons are given, in writing, for the delay in submitting the request. Otherwise, such late-filed requests are considered in turn, but action might not be taken prior to the desired date of operation. Requests for STAs must be accompanied by the proper filing fee.

(a) Grant without Public Notice. STAs may be granted without being listed in a Public Notice, or prior to 30 days after such listing, if:

(1) The STA is to be valid for 30 days or less and the applicant does not plan to file an application for regular authorization of the subject operation;

(2) The STA is to be valid for 60 days or less, pending the filing of an application for regular authorization of the subject operation;

(3) The STA is to allow interim operation to facilitate completion of authorized construction or to provide substantially the same service as previously authorized; or

(4) The STA is made upon a finding that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring operation in the public interest and that delay in the institution of such service would seriously prejudice the public interest.

(b) Limit on STA term. The FCC may grant STAs valid for a period not to exceed 180 days under the provisions of Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, (47 U.S.C. section 309(f)) if extraordinary circumstances so require, and pending the filing of an application for regular operation. The FCC may grant extensions of STAs for a period of 180 days, but the applicant must show that extraordinary circumstances warrant such an extension.



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**§ 27.315 Receipt of application; applications in the Wireless Communications Service filed on FCC Form 175 and other applications in the WCS Service.**

(a) All applications for WCS filed pursuant to section 27.304 are given a file number. The assignment of a file number to an application is merely for administrative convenience and does not indicate the acceptance of the application for filing and processing. Such assignment of a file number will not preclude the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be defective or not in accordance with the Commission's rules.

(b) Acceptance of an application for filing merely means that it has been the subject of a preliminary review as to completeness. Such acceptance will not preclude the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be defective or not in accordance with the Commission's rules.

**§ 27.316 Public notice period.**

(a) At regular intervals, the Commission may issue a public notice listing:

- (1) The acceptance for filing of all applications and major amendments thereto;
- (2) Significant Commission actions concerning applications listed as acceptable for filing;

(3) Information which the Commission in its discretion believes of public significance. Such notices are solely for the purpose of informing the public and do not create any rights in an applicant or any other person; or

(4) Special environmental considerations as required by part 1 of this chapter.

(b) The Commission will not grant any application until expiration of a period of seven (7) days following the issuance date of a public notice listing the application, or any major amendments thereto, as acceptable for filing. Provided, that the Commission will not grant an application filed on Form 600 filed either by a winning bidder or by an applicant whose Form 175 application is not mutually exclusive with other applicants, until the expiration of a period of forty (40) days following the issuance of a public notice listing the application, or any major amendments thereto, as acceptable for filing. See also section 27.207.

(c) As an exception to paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2) and (b) of this section, the public notice provisions are not applicable to applications:

(1) For authorization of a minor technical change in the facilities of an authorized station where such a change would not be classified as a major amendment (as defined by Section 27.313) were such a change to be submitted as an amendment to a pending application.